

Serial No. 10/657,800
Preliminary Amendment filed on June 3, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) An apparatus comprising:

a random access computer readable medium for storing a plurality of sequences of digital images from one or more sources of frames captured for playback at a rate of 24 frames per second, wherein each of the sequences of digital images is stored as a data file of a file system of a computer and has images having a one-to-one correspondence with the rate of 24 frames per second;

a nonlinear editing system, including:

means for permitting a user to specify scenes from the sequences of digital images stored in the data files on the random access computer readable medium, wherein a scene is defined by a reference to a data file storing a selected one of the sequences of digital images and by frame points designated in the selected sequence of digital images, wherein the frame points may be designated at any frame boundary using a metric based on the playback rate of 24 frames per second;

means for permitting a user to specify a sequence of one or more specified scenes;

selection means for enabling a user to select one of a plurality of output frame rates; and

means for producing a representation of an audiovisual work from the specified sequence of scenes in accordance with the selected one of the plurality of output frame rates.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein one of the plurality of output formats includes video played back at a rate of 29.97 frames per second.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein one of the plurality of output formats includes video played back at a rate of 24 frames per second.

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4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein one of the plurality of output formats includes film.
5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein one of the plurality of output formats includes video played back at a rate of 25 frames per second.
6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further including:
 - means for storing information about the designated frame points of each specified scene from the specified sequence of scenes from the sequences of digital images using a metric based on the rate of 24 frames per second; and
 - means for updating the stored information with the designated frame points of each specified scene in response to specification of the scenes from the sequence of digital images.
7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the stored information further comprises information about the designated frame points of each of the specified scenes from the specified sequence of scenes from the sequences of digital images using a metric based on the rate of 29.97 frames per second.
8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the representation of the audiovisual work is an edit decision list.
9. (Original) An apparatus comprising:
 - a random access computer readable medium for storing a plurality of sequences of digital images from one or more sources of frames captured for playback at a rate of 24 frames per second, wherein each of the sequences of digital images is stored as a data file of a file system of a computer and has images having a one-to-one correspondence with the rate of 24 frames per second;
 - a nonlinear editing system, including:

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means for permitting a user to specify scenes from the sequences of digital images stored in the data files on the random access computer readable medium, wherein a scene is defined by a reference to a data file storing a selected one of the sequences of digital images and by frame points designated in the selected sequence of digital images,

wherein the frame points may be designated at any frame boundary using a metric based on the playback rate of 24 frames per second;

means for permitting a user to specify a sequence of one or more specified scenes;

means for storing information about the designated frame points of each specified scene from the specified sequence of scenes from the sequences of digital images using a metric based on the rate of 24 frames per second and a second frame rate different from the rate of 24 frames per second;

means for updating the stored information with the designated frame points of each specified scene in response to specification of the scenes from the sequence of digital images; and

means for producing an audiovisual work using the specified sequence of scenes in accordance with a selected one of a plurality of output frame rates.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising selection means for enabling a user to select the selected one of the plurality of output frame rates.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein one of the plurality of output formats includes video played back at a rate of 29.97 frames per second.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein one of the plurality of output formats includes video played back at a rate of 24 frames per second.

13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein one of the plurality of output formats includes film.

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14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein one of the plurality of output formats includes video played back at a rate of 25 frames per second.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the stored information further comprises information about the designated frame points of each of the specified scenes from the specified sequence of scenes from the sequences of digital images using a metric based on the rate of 29.97 frames per second.

16. (New) An apparatus for compressing video information comprising:

means for receiving data indicative of whether consecutive images in the video information are redundant;

means responsive to the received data for removing at least one of the substantially redundant consecutive images;

means for compressing the video information without the substantially redundant consecutive images; and

means for storing the compressed video information and the data indicative of the substantially redundant consecutive images.

17. (New) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the data indicative of the substantially redundant consecutive images is stored in association with the compressed video information.

18. (New) A method for compressing video information, comprising:

receiving data indicative of whether consecutive images in the video information are

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substantially redundant;

removing at least one of the substantially redundant consecutive images according to the received data;

compressing the video information without the substantially redundant consecutive images; and

storing the compressed video information and the data indicative of the substantially redundant consecutive images.

19. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the data indicative of the substantially redundant consecutive images is stored in association with the compressed video information.

20. (New) A method for decompressing stored and compressed digital video information having a frame rate corresponding to 24 frames per second, wherein the compressed digital video information was generated by eliminating substantially redundant consecutive images in uncompressed digital video information originating from a video signal having a frame rate of 29.97 frames per second, wherein the compressed digital video information has associated information indicating where the substantially redundant consecutive images were located in the uncompressed digital video information, the method comprising:

receiving the associated information indicating where the substantially redundant consecutive images were located in the uncompressed digital video information;

decompressing the compressed digital video information to provide corresponding decompressed digital video information at a frame rate of 24 frames per second; and

generating a video signal having a frame rate of 29.97 from the decompressed video signal by reintroducing the substantially redundant consecutive images according to the received information.

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21. (New) Apparatus for decompressing stored and compressed digital video information having a frame rate corresponding to 24 frames per second, wherein the compressed digital video information was generated by eliminating substantially redundant consecutive images in uncompressed digital video information originating from a video signal having a frame rate of 29.97 frames per second, wherein the compressed digital video information has associated information indicating where the substantially redundant consecutive images were located in the uncompressed digital video information, the apparatus comprising:

means for receiving the associated information indicating where the substantially redundant consecutive images were located in the uncompressed digital video information;

means for decompressing the compressed digital video information to provide corresponding decompressed digital video information at a frame rate of 24 frames per second; and

means for generating a video signal having a frame rate of 29.97 from the decompressed video signal by reintroducing the substantially redundant consecutive images according to the received information.